Amendments To The Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Please cancel claims 1-132, and add new claims 133-148 as follows:

1-132. (cancelled).

133. (new) A method for inhibiting the expression of a gene in a cell comprising:

hybridizing a single-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide to an RNA encoded by the gene whose expression is to be inhibited to form a polynucleotide-target duplex; and

contacting the duplex with an enriched polypeptide under conditions selected to effect inhibition of expression of the gene, wherein the enriched polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 80% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

134. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the enriched polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 85% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

135. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the enriched polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 90% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

136. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the enriched polypeptide comprises an amino acid sequence that is at least 95% homologous to SEQ ID NO:2.

137. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the enriched polypeptide comprises SEQ ID NO:2.

138. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the enriched polypeptide is provided by upregulating the endogenous production of the polypeptide within the cell.

139. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the enriched polypeptide is expressed by exogenously adding a vector encoding the polypeptide to the cell.

140. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the enriched peptide is provided by exogenously adding the polypeptide to the cell.

141. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the single-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide is an antisense oligonucleotide.

142. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the single-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide comprises from about 8 to about 50 nucleobases.

143. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the single-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide comprises from about 12 to about 30 nucleobases.

144. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the singe-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide comprises at least one modification of the base, sugar or internucleoside linkage.

145. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein the single-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide comprises a modification at the 2' position of at least one sugar.

146. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein at least one furanosyl moiety of the singe-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide is a ribofuranosyl moiety.

147. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein at least 50% of the sugar moieties of the singe-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide are ribofuranosyl sugar moieties.

148. (new) The method of claim 133 wherein a majority of the furanosyl moieties of the single-stranded RNA-like polynucleotide are ribofuranosyl moieties.